

**Letter to Congressional Leaders
Transmitting a Report on the
Extension of Normal Trade Relations
Status for Certain Former Eastern
Bloc States**

July 3, 2002

Dear Mr. Speaker: (Dear Mr. President:)

Pursuant to sections 402 and 409 of the Trade Act of 1974, I am submitting an updated report to the Congress prepared by my Administration on the emigration laws and policies of Armenia, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Moldova, the Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, and Uzbekistan.

On September 21, 1994, President Clinton determined and reported to the Congress that the Russian Federation was not in violation of paragraphs (1), (2), or (3) of subsection 402(a) of the Trade Act of 1974, or paragraphs (1), (2), or (3) of subsection 409(a) of that Act. On June 3, 1997, he also determined and reported to the Congress that Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Moldova, and Ukraine were not in violation of the same provisions, and made an identical determination on December 5, 1997, with respect to Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan. These actions allowed for the continuation of normal trade relations for these countries and certain other activities without the requirement of an annual waiver.

On June 29, 2000, pursuant to section 302(b) of Public Law 106–200, President Clinton determined that title IV of the 1974 Trade Act should no longer apply to Kyrgyzstan, and on December 29, 2000, he made a similar determination with respect to Georgia pursuant to section 3002 of Public Law 106–476.

The attached report indicates continued compliance by Armenia, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Moldova, the Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, and Uzbekistan with international standards concerning freedom of emigration.

Sincerely,

George W. Bush

NOTE: Letters were sent to J. Dennis Hastert, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Richard B. Cheney, President of the Senate. An

original was not available for verification of the content of this letter.

**Proclamation 7576—To Provide for
the Efficient and Fair Administration
of Safeguard Measures on Imports of
Certain Steel Products**

July 3, 2002

*By the President of the United States
of America*

A Proclamation

1. On March 5, 2002, pursuant to section 203 of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended (the “Trade Act”) (19 U.S.C. 2253), I issued Proclamation 7529, which imposed tariffs and a tariff-rate quota on certain steel products under subheadings 9903.72.30 through 9903.74.24 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTS) (the “safeguard measures”) for a period of 3 years plus 1 day.

2. In clause (3) of Proclamation 7529, I excluded imports of certain steel that are the product of World Trade Organization (WTO) member developing countries, as provided in subdivision (d)(i) of U.S. Note 11 to subchapter III of chapter 99 of the HTS (Note 11), from the safeguard measures.

3. In clause (5) of Proclamation 7529, I authorized the United States Trade Representative (USTR), within 120 days after March 5, 2002, to further consider any request for exclusion of a particular product submitted in accordance with the procedures set out in 66 *Fed. Reg.* 54321, 54322–54323 (October 26, 2001) and, upon publication in the *Federal Register* of a notice of his finding that a particular product should be excluded, to modify the HTS provisions created by the Annex to Proclamation 7529 to exclude such particular product from the pertinent safeguard measure.

4. Pursuant to section 203(g) of the Trade Act (19 U.S.C. 2253(g)), in order to provide for the efficient and fair administration of the safeguard measures, I have determined that:

(a) the USTR should have authority, as appropriate, to add WTO member developing countries to the list of countries in subdivision (d)(i) of Note 11;

(b) the period provided in clause (5) of Proclamation 7529 should be extended until August 31, 2002; and

(c) requests for exclusion submitted in accordance with the procedures set out in 67 *Fed. Reg.* 19307, 19308 (April 18, 2002); 67 *Fed. Reg.* 35842, 35842–35843 (May 21, 2002); 67 *Fed. Reg.* 38693, 38694 (June 5, 2002) should be treated as having been submitted in accordance with the procedures set out in 66 *Fed. Reg.* 54321, 54322–54323 (October 26, 2001).

5. Section 604 of the Trade Act (19 U.S.C. 2483) authorizes the President to embody in the HTS the substance of the relevant provisions of that Act, and of other acts affecting import treatment, and actions thereunder, including the removal, modification, continuation, or imposition of any rate of duty or other import restriction.

Now, Therefore, I, George W. Bush, President of the United States of America, acting under the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the United States, including but not limited to sections 203 and 604 of the Trade Act, and section 301 of title 3, United States Code, do proclaim that:

(1) The USTR is authorized, upon publication of a notice in the *Federal Register* of his determination that it is appropriate to add WTO member developing countries to the list of countries in subdivision (d)(i) of Note 11, to add such countries to that list.

(2) Clause (5) of Proclamation 7529 is amended by deleting the words “Within 120 days after the date of this proclamation” and adding in their place the words “At any time on or before August 31, 2002”. Note 11 is amended in subdivision (c), by deleting the date “July 3, 2002” and adding in its place the date “August 31, 2002”.

(3) The USTR is authorized to treat requests for exclusion submitted in accordance with the procedures set out in 67 *Fed. Reg.* 19307 (April 18, 2002); 67 *Fed. Reg.* 35842 (May 21, 2002); or 67 *Fed. Reg.* 38693 (June 5, 2002) as having been submitted in accordance with the procedures set out in 66 *Fed. Reg.* 54321, 54322–54323 (October 26, 2001).

(4) Any provisions of previous proclamations and Executive Orders that are incon-

sistent with the actions taken in this proclamation are superseded to the extent of such inconsistency.

(5) The modifications to the HTS made by this proclamation shall be effective with respect to goods entered, or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption, on or after 12:01 a.m. EST, on March 20, 2002, and shall continue in effect as provided in subchapter III of chapter 99 of the HTS, unless such actions are earlier expressly reduced, modified, or terminated. Effective at the close of March 21, 2006, or such other date that is 1 year from the close of the safeguard measures, the modifications to the HTS established in this proclamation shall be deleted from the HTS.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this third day of July, in the year of our Lord two thousand two, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-sixth.

George W. Bush

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 10:21 a.m., July 5, 2002]

NOTE: This proclamation was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on July 4, and it was published in the *Federal Register* on July 8.

Remarks at a “Saluting Our Veterans” Celebration in Ripley, West Virginia July 4, 2002

The President. Thank you all very much. Thank you. Well, thank you, Shelley, and thanks for that warm welcome. I’m really proud to be in Jackson County, West Virginia.

Today we mark the 226th birthday of the United States of America. Last year I spent my first Independence Day as your President in Philadelphia. This year I get to spend it in Ripley, West Virginia.

Shelley told me about the Fourth of July celebration. She said I needed to come and meet the town. It looks like most of you showed up. [Laughter] I appreciate your hospitality. I appreciate all the hard work that went into making this Fourth of July celebration such a fantastic gathering of our fellow Americans. And thanks for having me.